

Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

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Weekly Wrap-up

Day 1: Governor begins third trade mission to Japan



Sept. 9, 2007— Gov. Daniels greets Kiyoshi Ueda, governor of Japan's Saitama Prefecture.

Sept. 9, 2007- Governor Mitch Daniels began his third trade mission to Japan by renewing acquaintances with local government officials and representatives from other Midwestern states that participated in the 39th Annual Joint Meeting of the Midwest U.S.-Japan Association.

The governor and Kiyoshi Ueda, governor of Japan's Saitama Prefecture, found they have much in common. Both have undertaken efforts to reduce government spending, jump start economies and invest in infrastructure to promote their states as centers for economic development.

Ueda was recently re-elected as his prefecture's governor and said he was interested in furthering business relationships between Indiana and Saitama. [Read the news release.](#)

Day 2: Daniels appreciative of close relationship between state and Japan

Sept. 10, 2007- Indiana is fortunate to have a strong U.S.-Japan bond, Governor Mitch Daniels told participants at the 39th Annual U.S. Midwest-Japan Association Conference, during remarks at the opening ceremonies in Tokyo on Monday. Twenty-eight Japanese companies have invested more than \$1.3 billion in the state in the past three years, and Daniels said more projects are in process.

Sept. 10, 2007- Governor Daniels presents a gift to Tochigi Governor Tomikazu Fukuda at the conclusion of a meeting in Tokyo.



[Read the news release.](#)

Day 3: Daniels meets with Sony, Toyota and Honda chairmen

Sept. 11, 2007- Governor Daniels continued his weeklong trade mission to Japan, meeting with the chairmen of Sony, Toyota and Honda.



Sept. 11, 2007- Governor Daniels and Mr. Satoshi Aoki, chairman of Honda Motor Co. check out a Honda concept car in the company's headquarters in Tokyo.

"We met with the leaders of three of the world's greatest companies," said Daniels. "Indiana's operations are important to them and our discussions were very productive."

During the trip, Daniels is scheduled to meet with up to six companies that are considering possible American investment.

The day closed with a Friends of Indiana reception attended by more than 150 people, including representatives of a number of companies that have operations in Indiana. [Read the news release.](#)

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

Day 4: Daniels continues prospecting for Hoosier jobs

Sept. 12, 2007- Governor Daniels spent the fourth day of his trade and investment mission to Japan on the road visiting current customers and prospecting for new ones.

Daniels traveled to Kariya City in the Aichi Prefecture to the home of Aisin Seiki, parent company of Aisin U.S.A., which produces components for door frames and seating, among other automobile components, at its plant in Seymour. The company also has several other Indiana locations.

There, the governor toured the plant and met with Mr. Kanshiro Toyoda, chairman of the company. The two were together earlier this year when Daniels and Toyoda attended the Aisin 20th anniversary celebration of the company's Seymour facility, which employs more than 2,000 people.

"We are building good customer relations, but also setting up our next business transactions," said the governor. "Our best chance to insource more jobs to Indiana are from companies already located in Indiana."

Daniels also had dinner with Mr. Kiichi Okada, executive vice president of TS Tech Co., Ltd., and two members of the company's board. TS Tech, a Honda supplier that makes seats and interior trim pieces, announced in March that it would construct a new facility near New Castle that will employ 300 people.

[Read the news release.](#)

Day 5: Daniels concludes third Japan trade mission

Sept. 13, 2007- Gov. Daniels and a state delegation of nearly 70 business, elected and community leaders wrapped up a weeklong trade mission with a day devoted mostly to discussions with companies that may one day insource jobs to Indiana.

"Just as the early part of the trip was packed with meetings with high-level executives who lead companies that already do business in Indiana, the last two days have been dominated by prospects," said Daniels.

The governor said an agreement for a new project in Indiana has been reached with one new company, and an announcement is expected in several weeks. He met with six prospective companies during the trade mission.

Daniels also thanked Mr. Yoshiyuki Takada, chairman of SMC Corporation, and other company leaders, for their new Indiana investment during a luncheon meeting. SMC Corporation of America announced just two weeks ago that it would relocate its North American headquarters in Noblesville and build a facility to house its headquarters and primary engineering, manufacturing and distribution center. The company designs and manufactures pneumatic production automation systems and employs more than 12,000 associates worldwide.

[Read the news release.](#)



Sept. 12, 2007- Indiana Secretary of Commerce Nate Feltman, Governor Daniels, Aisin Seiki Chairman Kanshiro Toyoda and Aisin President Yasuhito Yamachi at company headquarters in Kariya City, Aichi Prefecture.

Indiana artist featured on trip

Each time Governor Daniels visits with a business or government official during his trade mission to Japan, the work of an Indiana artist goes with him. The governor took glasswork made by a Hartford City native with him to present as gifts to the Japanese companies.

Ryan Gothrup created the hand blown glass cylinders and vases in the state colors of blue and gold. They are all one-of-a-kind, in various shapes and designs. Gothrup uses an Americanized style of classic Italian techniques.

"We're proud to showcase this work by a fine young Indiana artist," said Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)



Sept. 13, 2007- Governor Daniels and Mr. Yoshiyuki Takada, chairman of SMC Corporation.

A look ahead...

Governor Daniels will travel to Anderson and Washington, DC this week.